



[4910-13]

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 71

[Docket No. FAA-2018-0137; Airspace Docket No. 18-ACE-2]

Proposed Amendment and Establishment of Class E Airspace; Columbus, NE

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM).

SUMMARY: This action proposes to amend Class E airspace designated as a surface area and remove the Notice to Airmen (NOTAM) part-time status, amend Class E airspace extending upward from 700 feet above the surface, and establish Class E airspace designated as an extension to the Class E surface area at Columbus Municipal Airport, Columbus, NE. The FAA is proposing this action at the request of Minneapolis Air Route Traffic Control Center (ARTCC) and as the result of an FAA airspace review. Additionally, the geographic coordinates of the airport would be updated to coincide with the FAA's aeronautical database. This action is necessary for the safety and management of instrument flight rules (IFR) operations at the airport.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before **[INSERT DATE 45 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER]**.

ADDRESSES: Send comments on this proposal to the U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, Washington, DC 20590; telephone (202) 366-9826, or (800) 647-5527. You must identify FAA Docket No. FAA-2018-0137; Airspace Docket No. 18-ACE-2 at the beginning of your

comments. You may also submit comments through the Internet at <http://www.regulations.gov>. You may review the public docket containing the proposal, any comments received, and any final disposition in person in the Dockets Office between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except federal holidays.

FAA Order 7400.11B, Airspace Designations and Reporting Points, and subsequent amendments can be viewed online at http://www.faa.gov/air_traffic/publications/. For further information, you can contact the Airspace Policy Group, Federal Aviation Administration, 800 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20591; telephone: (202) 267-8783. The Order is also available for inspection at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). For information on the availability of FAA Order 7400.11B at NARA, call (202) 741-6030, or go to <https://www.archives.gov/federal-register/cfr/ibr-locations.html>.

FAA Order 7400.11, Airspace Designations and Reporting Points, is published yearly and effective on September 15.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jeffrey Claypool, Federal Aviation Administration, Operations Support Group, Central Service Center, 10101 Hillwood Parkway, Fort Worth, TX 76177; telephone (817) 222-5711.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority for this Rulemaking

The FAA's authority to issue rules regarding aviation safety is found in Title 49 of the United States Code. Subtitle I, Section 106 describes the authority of the FAA Administrator. Subtitle VII, Aviation Programs, describes in more detail the scope of the agency's authority. This rulemaking is promulgated under the authority described in Subtitle VII, Part A, Subpart I, Section 40103. Under that section, the FAA is charged with prescribing regulations to assign the

use of airspace necessary to ensure the safety of aircraft and the efficient use of airspace. This regulation is within the scope of that authority as it would amend Class E airspace to support IFR operations at Columbus Municipal Airport, Columbus, NE.

Comments Invited

Interested parties are invited to participate in this proposed rulemaking by submitting such written data, views, or arguments, as they may desire. Comments that provide the factual basis supporting the views and suggestions presented are particularly helpful in developing reasoned regulatory decisions on the proposal. Comments are specifically invited on the overall regulatory, aeronautical, economic, environmental, and energy-related aspects of the proposal. Communications should identify both docket numbers and be submitted in triplicate to the address listed above. Commenters wishing the FAA to acknowledge receipt of their comments on this notice must submit with those comments a self-addressed, stamped postcard on which the following statement is made: "Comments to Docket No. FAA-2018-0137; Airspace Docket No. 18-ACE-2." The postcard will be date/time stamped and returned to the commenter.

All communications received before the specified closing date for comments will be considered before taking action on the proposed rule. The proposal contained in this notice may be changed in light of the comments received. A report summarizing each substantive public contact with FAA personnel concerned with this rulemaking will be filed in the docket.

Availability of NPRMs

An electronic copy of this document may be downloaded through the Internet at <http://www.regulations.gov>. Recently published rulemaking documents can also be accessed through the FAA's web page at http://www.faa.gov/air_traffic/publications/airspace_amendments/.

You may review the public docket containing the proposal, any comments received, and any final disposition in person in the Dockets Office (see the “ADDRESSES” section for the address and phone number) between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except federal holidays. An informal docket may also be examined during normal business hours at the Federal Aviation Administration, Air Traffic Organization, Central Service Center, Operations Support Group, 10101 Hillwood Parkway, Fort Worth, TX 76177.

Availability and Summary of Documents for Incorporation by Reference

This document proposes to amend FAA Order 7400.11B, Airspace Designations and Reporting Points, dated August 3, 2017, and effective September 15, 2017. FAA Order 7400.11B is publicly available as listed in the ADDRESSES section of this document. FAA Order 7400.11B lists Class A, B, C, D, and E airspace areas, air traffic service routes, and reporting points.

The Proposal

The FAA is proposing an amendment to Title 14 Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR) part 71 that would:

Amend the Class E airspace designated as a surface area within a 4.2-mile radius (reduced from a 4.7-mile radius) at Columbus Municipal Airport, Columbus, NE; remove the Columbus VOR/DME and the extensions to the southeast and northwest of the airport as they are no longer needed to define this boundary; remove the NOTAM part-time language from the airspace description; and update the geographic coordinates of the airport to coincide with the FAA’s aeronautical database;

Establish Class E airspace designated as an extension to the Class E surface area at Columbus Municipal Airport within 2.4 miles each side of the Columbus VOR/DME 150° radial

from the 4.2-mile radius of the airport to 7.0 miles southeast of the airport, and within 2.4 miles each side of the Columbus VOR/DME 309° radial from the 4.2-mile radius of the airport to 7.7 miles northwest of the airport; and

Amend Class E airspace extending upward from 700 feet above the surface to within a 6.7-mile radius (reduced from a 7.7-mile radius) of Columbus Municipal Airport; remove the Columbus Municipal ILS Localizer, Platte Center NDB, and the associated northwest extension; amend the extension to the southeast to within 2.4 miles (increased from 1.6 miles) each side of the Columbus VOR/DME 150° (previously 157°) radial from the 6.7-mile radius to 7.0 miles (decreased from 11 miles) southeast of the airport; add an extension 2.4 miles each side of the Columbus VOR/DME 309° radial extending from the 6.7-mile radius to 7.7 miles northeast of the airport; and update the geographic coordinates of the airport to coincide with the FAA's aeronautical database.

Airspace reconfiguration is necessary due to a request from Minneapolis ARTCC, to bring the airspace into compliance with FAA Order 7400.2L, Procedures for Handling Airspace, and to support the safety and management of IFR operations at this airport.

Class E airspace designations are published in paragraphs 6002, 6004, and 6005, respectively, of FAA Order 7400.11B, dated August 3, 2017, and effective September 15, 2017, which is incorporated by reference in 14 CFR 71.1. The Class E airspace designations listed in this document will be published subsequently in the Order.

Regulatory Notices and Analyses

The FAA has determined that this proposed regulation only involves an established body of technical regulations for which frequent and routine amendments are necessary to keep them operationally current, is non-controversial and unlikely to result in adverse or negative

comments. It, therefore: (1) is not a "significant regulatory action" under Executive Order 12866; (2) is not a "significant rule" under DOT Regulatory Policies and Procedures (44 FR 11034; February 26, 1979); and (3) does not warrant preparation of a regulatory evaluation as the anticipated impact is so minimal. Since this is a routine matter that will only affect air traffic procedures and air navigation, it is certified that this proposed rule, when promulgated, would not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities under the criteria of the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

Environmental Review

This proposal will be subject to an environmental analysis in accordance with FAA Order 1050.1F, "Environmental Impacts: Policies and Procedures" prior to any FAA final regulatory action.

List of Subjects in 14 CFR Part 71

Airspace, Incorporation by reference, Navigation (air).

The Proposed Amendment

Accordingly, pursuant to the authority delegated to me, the Federal Aviation Administration proposes to amend 14 CFR part 71 as follows:

PART 71 - DESIGNATION OF CLASS A, B, C, D, AND E AIRSPACE AREAS; AIR TRAFFIC SERVICE ROUTES; AND REPORTING POINTS

1. The authority citation for 14 CFR part 71 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 106(f), 106(g); 40103, 40113, 40120; E.O. 10854, 24 FR 9565, 3 CFR, 1959-1963 Comp., p. 389.

§ 71.1 [Amended]

2. The incorporation by reference in 14 CFR 71.1 of FAA Order 7400.11B, Airspace Designations and Reporting Points, dated August 3, 2017, and effective September 15, 2017, is

amended as follows:

Paragraph 6002. Class E Airspace Areas Designated as Surface Areas.

* * * * *

ACE NE E2 Columbus, NE [Amended]

Columbus Municipal Airport, NE

(lat. 41°26'55"N., long. 97°20'34"W.)

Within a 4.7 mile radius of Columbus Municipal Airport.

Paragraph 6004. Class E Airspace Areas Designated as an Extension to a Class D or Class E

Surface Area.

* * * * *

ACE MO E4 Columbus, NE [New]

Columbus Municipal Airport, NE

(lat. 41°26'55"N., long. 97°20'34"W.)

Columbus VOR/DME

(lat. 41°27'00"N., long. 97°20'27"W.)

That airspace extending upward from the surface within 2.4 miles each side of the Columbus VOR/DME 150° radial extending from the 4.2-mile radius of Columbus Municipal Airport to 7.0 miles southeast of the airport, and within 2.4 miles each side of the Columbus VOR/DME 309° radial extending from the 4.2-mile radius of Columbus Municipal Airport to 7.7 miles northwest of the airport.

Paragraph 6005. Class E Airspace Areas Extending Upward from 700 feet or More Above the

Surface of the Earth.

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ACE NE E5 Columbus, NE [Amended]

Columbus Municipal Airport, NE

(lat. 41°26'55"N., long. 97°20'34"W.)

Columbus VOR/DME

(lat. 41°27'00"N., long. 97°20'27"W.)

That airspace extending upward from 700 feet above the surface within a 6.7-mile radius of Columbus Municipal Airport and within 2.4 miles each side of the Columbus VOR/DME 150°

radial extending from the 6.7-mile radius to 7.0 miles southeast of the airport and within 2.4 miles each side of the Columbus VOR/DME 309° radial extending from the 6.7-mile radius to 7.7 miles northwest of the airport.

Issued in Fort Worth, Texas, on March 21, 2018.

Christopher L. Southerland,
Acting Manager, Operations Support Group,
ATO Central Service Center.

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